

A BRIEF

MEMENTO

To the present

VN-PARLIAMENTARY IUNTO,

Touching their present Intentions and
Proceedings, to Depose & Execute CHARLES
STEWART, their lawfull
KING.

By *William Prynn* Esquire, a Member of the House
of Commons, and Prisoner under the Armies Tyranny;
who, it seems, have Levyed War against the Houses of Parlia-
ment, their *quandam* Masters; whose Members they now
forcibly take and deraine Captives, during
their lawfull Pleasure.

PROV. 24. 21, 22.

*My Sonne, Feare thou the Lord and the King. and meddle not with
those who are given to Change: For their calamitie shall Rise Suddenly,
and who knoweth the ruine of them both?*

GAL. I. 10.

If I yet pleased men, I shou'd not be the Servant of Christ.

LONDON, Printed Anno Dom. 1648.

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Die Veneris, 20. August. 1647.

**An Ordinance for declaring all Votes,
Orders, and Ordinances, passed in one or both
Houses, since the force on both Houses, July 26.
untill the sixth of this present August, 1647.
to be null and voyd.**

* And yet
never
Member
was then
forcibly
imprisoned
or secluded
the House
as above
100, are
now by the
Army.

VV Hereas there was a Visible, Horrid, Insolent, and Actuall force upon the Houses of Parliament, on Monday the 26. of July last, whereupon the Speakers, and many Members of both Houses of Parliament were * forced to absent themselves from the Service of the Parliament; and whereas those Members of the House could not return to sit in safety before Friday the sixth of August: It is therefore declared by the Lords & Commons in Parliament Assembled, That the Ordinance of Monday the said 26. of July, for the repealing and making voyd of the Ordinance of the 23. of the said July, for the setting of the Militia of the Citie of London, being gained by force and violence, And all Votes, Orders, Ordinances, passed in either or both Houses of Parliament, since the said Ordinance of the 26. of July, to the said sixth of August, are null and void, and were so at the making thereof, and are hereby declared so to be. the Parliament being under a force, and not free. Provided alwayes, and be it Ordained, That no person or persons shall be Impeached or punished for his or their actions by, or upon, or according to the aforesaid Votes, Orders, or Ordinances, unlesse he or they shall be found guiltie of contriving, atting, or abetting the aforesaid visible and actuall force, or being present at, or knowing of the said force, did afterwards all upon the Votes so forced, or were guiltie of entring into, or promoting the late Ingagement for bringing the King to the Citie, upon the termes and conditions expressed in his Majesties Letter of the 12. of May last.

John Brown Cler. Parliamentorum:





A breif *Memento* to the present Vnparliamentary *Iunto*, touching their present intentions and proceedings to *Depose* and *Execute*

CHARLES STEWARD, their lawfull
King of ENGLAND, &c.

GENTLEMEN,



It is the observation of King Solomon, Pro. 25. 11. *That a word spoken in due season, is like Apples of Gold and Pictures of Silver.* And seeing I (and above two hundred Members more) being forcibly secluded from you by the Officers of the Armies unparaleld violence upon our Persons and the House, cannot speake my mind freely to you in, or as the House of Commons, I held it my duty freely to write my thoughts unto you, only as private Persons under a force, consulting in the House, without your Fellow-Members advice or concurrence, about the speedy deposing and executing of KING CHARLES, your lawfull Sovereigne, to please the Generall, Officers, and Grand Councell of the Army (who have unjustly usurped to them the supreme authority both of King and Parliament) or rather the Idols and Popish Priests among or neare them, by whose Councells they and you are now wholly swayed, and whose trayterous designs you really execute, in most of your late Votes and Actings.

I have onely a few words of consideration to impart unto you: *Conk. 3. Instit. 4. Stam- for Plea of t c Crown, L no 1, c. 1, 2.*

First, I shall minde you, that by the *Common Law of the Realme, the Statute of 25. E. 3. and all other Acts concerning Treason, it is

no less then **High Treason**, for any Man by over-Act, to compass or imagine the depostion, or death of the King, or of his eldest Son and Heire, though it be never executed; much more if actually accomplished. That many have bin arraigned, condemned, executed for such intended Treasons in former ages; as the Earle of Arundell and others; by Indgement in Parliament, 21. R. 2. Plac. Corona: N. 46. 7. and the Gunpowder Traitors, 3. Iacobi to omit others, whose Examples should be others admonitions, the **Heads** and **Quarters** of some of them yet hanging on the Houses, where now you meete and sit.

ally. That in the **Oath of Allegiance** which you have all taken, immediately before your admission into the House as Members; You doe truly and sincerely acknowledge, profess, testifie, and declare in your consciences, before God and the World; That our Sovereigne Lord King Charles, is lawfull and rightfull King of this Realme., and of all other His Majesties Dominions and Countries: And hat the Pope, neither of himselfe, nor by any authority of the Church or See of Rome, or by any other meanes. Nor any other hath any power or authority to depose the King, or to dispose of any of his Majesties Kingdomes or Dominions, or to discharge any of His Subjects of His Allegiance and obedience to His Majesty, or to give leave to any of them, to offer any violence to His Majesties Person, State or Government.

Note this.

And that notwithstanding any sentence or Declaration of Deposition made by the Pope, &c. or any absolution of the said Subjects from their obedience, you will beare true Allegiance to His Majesty, his Heires and Successors, and him and them will defend to the utmost of your power. Against all attempts and conspiracies whatsoever, which shall be made against his or their Persons, their Crown and Dignity, by reason or colour of any such Sentence or Declaration, or otherwise. And doe thereby further swear, that you doe from your hearts abhor, detest, and abjure as impious and Hereticall, that damnable doctrine and position that Princes which be excommunicated or deprived by the Pope, may be deposed or murdered by their Subjects, or any other whatsoever. And that you doe believe, and in conscience are resolved, that neither the Pope, nor any person whatsoever, hath power to absolve you of this Oath or any part thereof, and that all these things you did plainly and sincerely acknowledge and swear according to these expresse words and their plain and common sence, without any equivocation, or mentall evasion

or secret reservation whatsoever. And that you did make this Recognition and acknowledgement heartily, willingly, & truly, upon the true faith of a Christian. Now whether your present actions, & intentions against the King be not diametrically repugnant to this solemn Oath (which most of you have taken since these wars, & some of you since the Treaty, when sworn Serjeants at Law, &c.) let God and the World before whom you swear & your owne Consciences in which you then swore, determine you acting here in the Popes & Jesuits designs.

3dly. That you & Ives among other Members, have in above one hundred Remonstrances, Declarations, Petitions, Ordinances and Printed Papers, published in the name, and by the authority of one or both Houses of Parliament, professed, both to the King himselfe, Kingdome, World, and forraigne States, that you never intended the least hurt, injury, or violence to the Kings Person, Crowne, Dignity, or Posterity: but intend to him and his Royall Posterity, more honor, Happinesse, Glory and Greatnesse, then ever was yet enjoyed by any of his Royall Predecessors: That you will ever make good to the uttermost with your lives and fortunes, the Faith and Allegiance which in truth and sincerity you have alwayes borne to His Majestie. That you have proposed no other ends to your selves, but the performance of all Duty and Loyalty to His Majesties Person. That all contributions and Loans upon the Publique Faith should be employed onely to maintaine the Protestant Religion, the Kings Authority, His Person, His Royall Dignity, the Lawes of the Land, Peace of the Kingdom, and privileges of Parliament, and not to be employed against His Majesties Person or Authority. That the Armies and Forces rayfed by the Houses, were rayfed for the safety and defence of the Kings Person, & of both Houses of Parliament, &c. That His Majesties personall safety, honour, and greatnesse are much dearer to you then your owne lives and fortunes which you doe most heartily dedicate. & shall most willingly employ for the maintenance and support thereof. That the Parliament will ever have a care to prevent any danger which His Majestie may justly apprehend to His Person. That both Houses are resolved to expose their lives and fortunes, for the defence and maintenance of the true Religion, the Kings Person, Honour, and State, the power and privileges of Parliament. That notwithstanding this Majesties Proclamations against their General and Army, as Traitors, yet to witness their constant and unshaken Loyalty to His Majestie,

* *Exam. Collections.* p. 6.
19. 21. 59.
46. 6. 8.
102. 103.
118. 123.
125. 141.
142. 143.
17. 10.
145. 219.
259. 281.
307. 310.
312. 350.
376. 457.
&c.

* *A Collection.*
6. 18. 1.
10. 4. 14.
49. 51. 61.
62. 63. 11.
121. 11.
121. 124.
125. 126.
199. 102.
602. 02.
8. 1. 2.
d. prolix
p. 11.

both

both Houses so solemnly declare; That upon his disbanding his forces, and return & harkning to the advice of his Great Council, They will really endeavour to make both him & his as much beloved at home, & feared abroad as any Pr. that ever swayed this Scepter: which is **their firm and constant Resolution**: from which they will not be diverted for any private or self-respects whatsoever: That they will faithfully endeavour to secure his **Majesties Person & Crown** from all dangers; inculcating the apparent danger to his **Royall Person** among his Popish and Malignants Armies & ill Councillors, & upon that reason, perswading and inviting him to desert them, and close with his Parliament: protesting, that the Parliament hath bin, is, and ever will be more ready then they, to secure and uphold the Authority, Prerogative, and Honour of the King, and preserve the safety of his **Royall Person**, which they have oft times testified by many humble Petitions and Declarations to Him, the World, and Kingdome; with many other such like expressions. Which whether your present Actings and Councels do not directly oppose, contradict, and give the lye unto, to your eternall infamy and breach of publike faith, as much as in you lyes, let both Houses, the world and all men judge, as they will do in due season.

* Exam
Collection,
p. 298.
695. 696.
697. 698.
699.

Fourthly, Consider, that when the * King and his partie did tax the Houses for insinuating, That if they should make the highest professions of other Parliaments their paterne, there would be no cause to complaine of want of modesty or duty in them: That is, **they may oppose the King when they will**, and are not to be blamed for so doing: and that the Army raised by the Parliament, was to **murder and depose the King**. Both Houses by two solemn Declarations, did most professedly declare and protest against it, as the falsest and most malicious accusation that could be imagined: **that the thoughts of it never entered, nor should enter into their loyal hearts**, "That as "God is witness of their thoughts, so shall their actions witness to "all the world, that to the honor of our Religion, & of those who are "most zealous in it, they shall suffer far more for & from their Sovereign then they hoped God would ever permit the malice of his "wicked Councillors, to put them to, since the happiness of the "Kingdom doth so mainly depend upon His Majesty and the Royall "Authority of that root. That they hoped the contrivers of these false & scandalous reports, or any that professed the name of a Christian, could not have so little charity, as to raise such a scandal, especially when they
must

must needs know, the Protestation made by the Members of both Houses, whereby they promise in the presence of Almighty God, To defend and preserve his Majesties Person, "The promise and Protestation made by the Members of both Houses, upon the Nomination of the Lord of Essex to be Generall, and to live and dye with him, wherein is expressed, *That this Army was rayed (as be-
 fence of the Kings Person. Their often, earnest, and most humble ad-
 dresses to his Majestie, to leave that desperate and dangerous Army
 wherewith he is now encompassed, rayed and upheld, to the hazard of
 his own, and the Kingdoms ruine, & to come in Person to his Par-
 liament, where he should be sure to remain in honour and safety, and
 their humble petition directed to be presented to him by the hands of the
 Earle of Essex, before any blow given, to remove his Royall Person
 from the Army: a request inconsistent with any purpose to offer the
 least violence to his Person: which hath, and ever shall be dear unto
 them. Now put it to your Soules and Consciences, whether yours &
 the Armies present Councells and Actions, do not really justify the
 King and his parties former suggestions, and give the Lye to these
 Declarations of both Houses? who certainly, when ever restored to a
 condition of freedom and libertie of meeting together againe, will
 crave publike reparations and justice against you, if you violate both
 their honour, faith, and engagements to the King, Kingdome, and
 forraign States, against these their Declarations & Protestations too.

Fifthly, Remember, *that the Lord and Commons Assembled in Par-
 liament, Octo. 22. 1642. did, in the presence of Almighty God (which is
 the strongest obligation that any Christian, and the most solemn pub-
 like faith that any State, as a Parliament can give) for the satisfaction
 of their own Consciences and discharge of that great trust that lies
 upon them, make this Protestation and Declaration to all this King-
 dome and Nation, and to the whole world, That no private passion or
 respect: No evil intention to his Majesties Person, no designe to
 prejudice his just Honor and Authority, engaged them to raise
 forces or take up Armes: That if he would return to his Parliament
 in peace, and by their counsells and advise compose the distempers
 and confusions abounding in his Kingdomes; They would receive
 him with all Honour, yeeld him all true obedience, subjection, and
 faithfully endeavour to defend his Person & State from all danger
 yet, and to the uttermost of their power & Ability him, in all the blessings
 of

which they oft
 profess
 both of
 the Army
 under the
 Earle of
 Essex, and
 Sir Tho.
 Fairfax, &
 Colledge
 on of all
 Orders,
 &c. 8. 13.
 41. 43. 44.
 49. 51. 61.
 64. 96. 99.
 623. 696.
 879. Ap-
 pendix p.
 15.

* Exa &
 Collecti-
 ons, p. 663
 66. 666.
 687. 686.
 907. 911.

of a glorious and happy Reigne. And that they had no intention or
 desire to hurt or injure his Majestie, either in his Person or just
 Power. Which they seconded by many subsequent Declarations.
 Since which both Houses and the three Kingdoms of England, Scot-
 land and Ireland have entered into * A solemn League and Covenant,
 For the Honour and happiness of the Kings Majestie, and his Posterity,
 Among other ends therein specified; That they shal sincerely, really,
 and constantly endeavour, with their estates and lives, to preserve and
 defend the Kings Majesties Person and Authority, in the preserva-
 tion and defence of the true Religion and Liberties of the Kingdoms,
 that the World may beare witness with their Consciences, of their
 Loyalty, and that they have no thoughts, nor intention to diminish
 his Majesties just power and greatnesse. That they will withall faith-
 fulnesse endeavour to discover all evil Instruments and Incendiaries,
 * dividing the King from his people, that they may be brought to pub-
 like Tryall, and receive condigne punishment: And shall never suffer
 themselves directly or indirectly, by whatsoever combination, perswas-
 ion or error, to be withdrawn from this blessed Union, &c. which so
 much concerneth the glory of God, the good of the Kingdomes, and the
 Honor of the King, but shall all the dayes of their lives zealously
 and constantly continue therein against all opposition. And conclude;
 This Covenant wee make in the presence of Almighty God the searcher
 of all hearts, with a true intension to observe the same, as wee shall an-
 swer at the great day, when the secrets of all hearts shall be disclosed.
 This Covenant you have all taken your selves (some of you often)
 and * imposed it on all the three Kingdomes: And will it not stare
 in your faces, your consciences, and engage God himselfe, and all
 three Kingdomes, as one man against you, if you should proceed to
 depose the King destroy his Person, or disinherit his Posteritie? yea,
 bring certaine ruine upon you and yours, as the greatest * Covenant-
 breakers, and most periured Creatures under Heaven. O think, and
 think most seriously upon it, before you proceed to further perjuries.
 * 1. 24. E. 3. William Thrope, Chiefe Justice of the Kings Bench, for
 for taking 80 l. bribes of severall persons, was by speciall Commis-
 sion, indicted, convicted, and Condemned to be hanged, and to forfeit all
 his Lands, Tenements, Goods, and Chattels to the King: because thereby,
 Sacramentum Domini Regis quod erga populum habuit custodien-
 dum fregit, maliciose, falso & rebelliter, quantum in ipso fuit:
 which

* A Col-
 lection, &c.
 p. 327. 359
 397. 404.
 416. 420.
 807. 887.
 808. 878.
 879. 889.

* Those
 who depose
 or divide
 his Head
 from his
 shoulders
 must be
 most guiltie
 of this
 dividing.
 * A Col-
 lection, &c.
 p. 410. &c.

* 2 Tim. 3.
 3. 4.
 * Rot. Pit.
 An. 14. E.
 3. m. in
 dor. Rot.
 Pas. An. 23
 E. par. 1.
 m. 17.
 Instit. p. 14
 233.

which Judgement was affirmed to be just and reasonable in full Parliament where it was openly read by the Kings command, as is evident by 25. E. 3. Rot. Parl. nu 10. If then this chiefe Justice : for breaking his Oath to the King and his people, as a Judge, only in taking two or three small bribes, deserved to be hanged, and to forfeit all his Lands, Goods, and Life, by the judgement of a full Parliament, then what will such Members deserve to suffer, who shall violate, not only what Oathes of Allegiance and Supremacy to the King and his heires, but likewise the severall Protestations, solemn League and Covenant, and the multiplied publique faith, engagements, Declarations, Remonstrances, and promises of both houses of Parliament, made to God, the King, the whole Kingdome and people of England, Scotland, and Ireland, the States of the united Provinces, and all the world, and that maliciously, falsely and Rebellionously, as much as in them lies, and their owne private Faith, Oathes, Vowes, and Covenants involved in them, in deposing and executing the King, disinheritting the Prince, violating the priviledges, usurping the power of the Parliament to themselves, when most of the other members are violently seclused by the Army, to the subversion of the freedom and liberties of al Parliaments? this being one Article against King Rich. the 2d. in 1 H. 4. Rot. Parl. n. 25, 66. 70. when he was deposed, That in the Parliament held at Salop intended to oppresse his people, he did subtilly procure and cause to be granted, by consent of all the states of the Kingdome (which you have not) that the power of the Parliament should remaine with certaine person [* Lords and Commons] to determine certaine Petitions then delivered, but not dispatched, after the Parliament ended; by colour whereof the said deputed persons proceeded by the Kings pleasure & will, to other things generally concerning the said Parliament, to the great derogation of the State and priviledges of the Parliament, and the great inconvenience and pernicious example of the whole Realme, and to gaine some colour and authority to their doings, the King caused the Parliament Rolls to be altered and deleated according to his Vote, contrary to the effect of the foresaid Concession; as you have presumed to null, repeale, and unvote divers Votes, Orders, and Ordinances of both Houses made in pursuance of the foresaid oathes, protestations, the solemn League and Covenant, Remonstrances, Declarations of both houses, & the treaty, when the houses were full, and not under the Armes force or violence : And if their

21 R. 2. 6.

16.

* 1 H. 4.
c. 3.

As the
House d
in the case
of the five
Members,
Exact col
lection, p.
35. to 36.

* Matthew
Paris, p.
882. 885.
318. Dan.
p. 172.

* 2 Kings
24. 6. 15.
16. 14. 15.
30. 2. 21.
24.

proceedings and the whole Parliament of 21 R. 2. were declared * null and void, and the King worthy to be deposed, for such proceedings then; let *Serjeant Throp*, and other Lawyers not acting with you, consider and informe you, what punishment you deserve for such breach of faith, privileges of Parliament, & usurpation of a monopoly of Parliamentary power to your selves now, whiles under the *Armies force*, & most Members forced thence: in which case you ought not to *Sit, Vote, or conclude any thing*, but only to * adjourne till the force removed & all members may freely meet in full parl. as is clear by that memorable Record of 6. E. 3. *Parl. apud Ebor. n. 1. 2. Dors. Claus. 6. E. 3. m. 4. 6. E. 3. apud West. parl. 2 n. 1. 13. E. 3. parl. 2 n. 4. 15. E. 3. n. 5. 17. E. 3. n. 2. 6. 18. E. 3. n. 1. 2. 5. 20. E. 3. n. 5. 11. E. n. 4. 22. E. 3. n. 1. 25. E. 3. n. 1. 29. E. 3. n. 4. 36. E. 3. n. 1. 37. E. 3. n. 1. 42. E. 3. n. 1. 50. E. 3. n. 1. 51. E. 3. n. 3. 1 R. 2. n. 1. 2. R. 2. n. 1. 3. R. 2. n. 1. 4. R. 2. n. 1. 5. R. 2. parl. 1 n. 1. parl. 2 n. 1. 6. R. 2. parl. 1 n. 1. parl. 2 n. 1. 8. H. 4. n. 28. 30. 149. H. 4. n. 1. 13. H. 4. n. 1. and many more rolls: where the Parliament when any considerable number of the Members of either House were absent, was constantly adjourned and refused to sit or to do any thing (though not under any force,) till the houses were full, much more then when under the Armies sword: it being against *Magna Charta*, as the * Barons declared in Parl. Anno Dom. 1257. in the reigne of K. H. the 3d. for a few Members to sit, when the rest are absent.*

6thly. Consider that though many of the Kings of *Judah* and *Israel* were extraordinary sinfull and Idolators, bloody and tyrannicall great oppressors of their people, yea shedders of Priests, of Prophets, and other good mens innocent blood, not onely in the wars but in peace: yet there is not one president in the Old Testament of any one King ever juditially impeached, arraigned, deposed, or put to death by the Congregation, Sanhedrin, or Parliaments of *Judah* or *Israel*. That those who slew any of them in a tumultuous or treacherous manner, were for the most part slaine themselves; either in a tumult, or * else put to death by their Children who succeeded to the Crowne, or people of the Land: and that the *Israelites* after their revolt from *Rehoboam*, had never any one good King, or good day almost among them, but were over-run with Idolatry, prophane nesse tyranny, invaded by enemies, involved in perpetuall warres, Civill or Forraigne, and at last all destroyed and carried away Captives into *Babylon*: as the Books of Kings and Chronicles will informe you.

That

That the rule in the old Testament is, not to take any wicked Kings from their Thrones and behead them : but , * *Take away the wicked* Bro. 21. 3.
from before the King, and his Throne shall be established in righteousness.
 And the Rule in the New Testament : *To be subject to Kings and the* * Rom. 13
Higher Powers, and to submit unto them, even for conscience and the Lords 1, 2. &c.
sake : and to make Prayers, Supplications, and Intercessions for them, that Tit. 3. 1, 2.
under them we may lead a peaceable and quiet life, in all godliness and bon- 1 Pet. 3.
desty : for this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour : not 13, 14, 17. &
 to depose or shed their blood, for which there is no precept. And is Tim. 2.
 not this plaine way of God the safest for you and the Army to fol- 1, 2, 3.
 low, yea the onely short cut to Peace and settlement ? Ruminat
 upon it , and then be wise, both for your soules good , and the
 Kingdomes too.

7thly, Consider, that you now meet, and sit under the armed force
 and violence of a *mutinous Army*, who have leaved Warre against
 the Houses to dissolve them, imprisoned many of your Members, for-
 bly seclused more , and driven away almost all from the Houses ;
 That till the removall of this horrid force, and re-assembling of all
 your scattered Members with freedom and safety in the Houses, all
 you *Vote, Aſſ, Order, or Ordaine*, by the Armies own Doctrine in their
 Remonstrance of Aug. 18. and the Declaration and Ordinance of both
 Houses (made at the Armies instance) Aug. 20. 1647, is null and void,
 even at and from the time it was voted, acted, ordered, ordained, and so
 declared by your selves even by this unrepealed Ordinance, and by
 former Parliaments to, as 21. R. 2. c. 12. 1. H. 4. c. 3. 31, H. 6. c. 1. 39. H.
 6. c. 1. And however you may take upon you the name and power
 of the Houses of Parliament, and unvote, vote, order, and ordaine
 what you please ; yet take it for an infallible truth , that none of
 the * seclused and absent Members, none of the Counties, Cities,
 and Borroughs, for which they serve, nor those for whom you serve
 and represent ; nor yet the Kingdoms of *England, Scotland, and Ire-*
land (who have as great or greater a share and interest in the person
 of the King, as their lawfull Sovereigne, and are engaged by Oaths,
 Covenant, and all the forecited premises to protect his person and
 Crown with their lives and estates, against all violence and danger)
 with his Queen, Children and Allies in forraigne parts, of what Re-
 ligion soever, will never own you [in your present condition, and
 constitution] to be a Parliament , but rather a *Conventicle* or *Junto*,

* See their
 Protestati-
 on. Dec.
 11. 1642

* See A
Collection
&c. p. 93.
221. 222.
225. 253.

nor any thing you vote, order, or ordain to be * valid. And therefore whatever you vote, order, or ordaine concerning the *Treaty*, the *deposing* or *executing the King*, the *dis-heriting* or *banning the Prince*, *dissolving the present Parliament*, *setting up a new confused Representative*, or *new forms of State Government*, only to please the Officers and Army, or rather those *Jesuits* and *popish Priests*, who have over-reached, and instigated them forcibly to prosecute these their treasonable *designes*, and accomplish this their long expected desire and work; you must do only as private men, not as a Parliament: And if so, what lesser offence then *High Treason* against the King, Parliament, and Kingdom, your present actings and proceedings will prove in the conclusion, if you persevere and persist in them, I leave to a free Parliament, the learned Judges, and all Lawyers now sitting and voting among you, to consider and resolve. Which the Officers and Councell of the Army considering, would cast the Odium and danger of all upon you, the better to exempt and acquit themselves if after reckonings should come, as probably they may, and certainly will in Gods due time, if you and they repent not. Give over, and crave pardon ere it be over late.

8ly Remember, That no Protestant Kingdome or State ever yet defiled their hands, or stained the purity and Honour of their Reformed Religion, with the deposition, or blood of any of their Kings or Princes, much lesse of a *Protestant King or Prince*, of a temperate and sober life as the King is; who never immediatly imbrued his own hands in any one mans blood, in any tyrannical or bloody way before or since the wars, (for ought I can heare) but only in a Military. And for a reforming Protest. Parl. pretending the most of any to piety & Religion, to stain their profession or honour by the deposition, or defile their hands with the blood of a Protest. King, or for an army of Saints to do it, or they to please a Saint-seeming Army, and that against so many forementioned Oaths, Protestations, Declarations, Remonstrances, Solemne Leagues & Covenants one after another to the contrary, would be such an unparaleld scandall to the Protest. Religion and all professors of it (who have upbraided the Jesuits and Papiists with this perfidious and treasonable practise, of which they have bin deeply guilty, and themselves innocent) both in our own 3. Kingdoms & the whole Christian world, as would give the greatestt occasion, advantage, and encouragement to the Jesuits, Papiists, and
all

all licentious persons to joyne their hands, heads, purses, to suppress and extirpate it, and all the professions of it, both at home and abroad, that ever yet they had, and make Parliaments for ever hereafter execrable and detestable, both to Kings and People.

gly. Consider, that *Scotland and Ireland* are joyntenants, at least wise Tenants in Common with us in the King, as their Lawfull Sovereigne & King, as well as ours; & that the Scots delivered and left his person to our Commissioners at *Newcastle*, upon *this expresse condition*: That no violence should be offered to his Person, &c. according to the *Covenant*. How then you can un-King or depose him as to them, or take away his life upon pretext of Justice, without their concurrent assents, is worthy your saddest thoughts. If you do it without asking or receiving their consents, you engage both Kingdoms to make a just Warre against you, to proclaim and to Crown the Prince of *Wales* their King (though you should lay him aside) as being next Heire apparent. And no Ordinance you can now make, will be any legall barre against him, to the Crowne of *Engl.* where he will finde ten thousand persons for you, who will joyn with *Scotland and Ireland* to set him upon his Fathers Throne, as King of *England*, and avenge his blood upon all who shall be ayding or assisting to its spilling, or his death owning. And what then will become of you and your army, when thus deserted by most, opposed by all 3. Kingdoms, and all the Kings, Queens, and Princes Allies, united forces? Where will you, where will your *St. Cromwell*, *St. Ireton*, *St. Pride*, *St. Peters*, (that fast and loose carnall prophet and *Arch Jesuited Incendiary* in these present tumults (with other Grand Saints of the Army) who now force you, the Generall, Army and whole Kingdom, upon such dangerous Councils as these, by the Jesuits principles and practises) then appear, to save either themselves, or you, or your posterities from exemplary justice without mercy, or hopes of pardon? Consider this then seriously, if not as *Christians*, yet as *Politicians* and *selfe-ended* men, and then repent and be wise in time.

Tenthly, Remember, that you have neither Law nor direct prescription what you are going about: * *Edward* the 2d. and *Richard* the 2d. were forced by *Mortimer*, and *Henry* the 4th. to resigne their Crownes in a formall manner, the one to his Son, the other to his conquering Successor, neither of them to the Parliament, & then deposed

* *Walsingham Hist.*
Ang. p.
107, 108.
109. *Polichron* 1.
c. 44. See
Speed History
Grafton in
Ed. 2. &
Rich. 2.
Henry the
4th.
* 1. H. 4.
Rot. Parl.
n. 1. to 60.
where the
whole pro-
ceedings
are at
large rela-
ted.

by a subsequent sentence in Parliament, as unfit to *Reigne*, without any formall legall tryall, or answer: and that not in an empty Parliament under a force, as now, when most Members were forced away and secluded; but in a full Parliament, wherein the Articles drawn up against them were never so much as read; and their depositions made [upon their owne voluntary concessions only] to confirme, their precedent Resignation, Besides, neither of these Kings though very bad, and Paptitts, were ever condemned to loose their heads or lives, but were to be well and Honourable treated: And those Proceedings were onely by Popish Parliaments in time, of ignorance, who had no such Oathes, Vowes, Covenants, protestations, and other forementioned considerations to tye their hands, as you and we all have now. Yea this very Par^l. hath solemnly and particularly protested, * that they did never suffer these Presidents to enter into their thoughts, and they should never be their practise what ever they suffered from the King or his, and that for the honour of our Religion, and the most zealous in it. But that which is very observable, Roger Mortimer, the principle actor in deposing King Edward the 2d. and Crowning his Sonne Edward the 3d. King in his stead, (as you must now Crowne the Prince Wales, in his Fathers stead, if you depose the King, else you pursue not this president as you should do) in the Parliament of 1 Ed. 3. (in which I finde no record concerning this depofall:) was in * a full Parliament, within four yeares after, with some other of his Confederates, * impeached, condemned, and executed, as a Traytor and Enemy to the King and Kingdome, by the Judgement of the Lords, and that by King Edward the third his owne assent, without any legall bearing or Tryall, (just as he had there depofed this King without it) for murdering King Edward in Berkley Castle after his depofall: and Sir Thomas de Berkley, in whose Castle he was slaine, being indicted of Treason likewise for the same murder, before the Lords in Parliament, pleaded not guilty therunto and was tried at the Lords Bar in a legall manner, by a Jury of twelve Knights, there sworn and impaneled, and by them acquitted upon full evidence and tryall? when as Sir Simon de Bureford, was impeached, condemned and executed by a judgement given against him by the Lords alone, without any triall, for murdering this depofed King, and Thomas de Gurney and William Ocle, adjudged Traytors by them for the same offence without any evidence appearing to record. These presidents

* Exact
Col. p. 69.
. 676.

* E. 3. rot.
Par. n. 1.
207.

* 4. E. 3.
n. 16.

* 4. E. 3.
n. 3. 5.

dents then, will be of very hard digestion, and not paralleled to our
 times, or the Kings case: Who, having upon the late Treaty granted
 us, for the speedy settlement & security of our bleeding Kingdomes
 Churches and Religion, what ever we could in honor, justice, or rea-
 son desire, and farre greater advantages and security then any of
 our ancestors, or any Kingdome under heaven from the Creation to
 this present demanded, or enjoyed from any of their Princes (as I
 dare make good to you and all the world;) and that which the
 Commons house, after two whole daies & one whole nights debate,
 thought and voted, *a sufficient ground for them to proceed with the King,*
to the speedy settling of the kingdoms peace, how you, or the Army; after
 such large Concessions, contrary to the votes of both houses when
 full and free, can in *honour, justice, reason, discretion, or conscience* pro-
 ceed to depose or decapitate the King, as a violater of his faith, a
 Traytor &c. without making your selves more perjured, treacher-
 ous & greater Traytors in all kinds, then he, and incurring the same
 judgment & execution as you shall passe & inflict upon him, I leave to
 your safest consultations to advise off I have thus freely, faithfully, &
 plainly, discharged my mind: & conscience to you, without feare or
 flattery, for the Kings, Kingdoms, Parliaments, protestant Religions,
 I am certaine *Ireland* is (almost irrecoverably lost) your owne, and
 the Armys weale and safety too, if God in mercy please to give you
 heads or hearts to make timely use of it, and not suffer your selves
 to be Jesuit-ridden any longer. Consider, you have most of you Es-
 tates, all of you Heads, or lives, and soules to save, or loose, both
 here and hereafter? If this, and all the precedent considerations will
 not prevaile with you, to take you off from your present desperate
 Councells and proceedings, for your owne, the Kingdoms, Chur-
 ches, Religions, Irelands, Parliaments, your owne posterities, and
 the Armys safety too, ride on triumphantly still in *Ignatius Loyola*
 his fiery Chariot, like so many young *Phaetons*, till you fall and pe-
 rish. It is sufficient for me, however you digest this present friend-
 ly *Memento* to you, that I can truly say, *liberavi animam meam*, what-
 ever becomes of you or me. Who doe here solemnly protest to all
 the world against these your proceedings, as altogether null, void,
 Unparliamentary, illegall, unchristian: if not perfidious and Treas-
 onable in these respects.

I shall close up all with the Golden sentence of God himselfe; and the wisest of men, King *Solomon*, which is twice repeated *verbatim* that it might be the better remembred and considered by you, & all others in such Exigences of publique affaires, as we are now fallen into, Prov. 22. 3. and 27. 12. *A prudent man foreseeth the evill and hideth himselfe, but the simple passe on and are punished.* And with that which is paralel to it. Prov. 14. 14, 15, 16. *The simple beleeve every word, but the prudent man looketh well to his goings, A wise Man feareth and departeth from evill, but the foole rageth and is confident, and shall be filled with his owne wayes:* which is thus interpreted. Prov. 1. 18. 38, 32, 33. *They lye in wait for their owne blood, they lurk privily for their owne lives, whose feet run to evill, and who make hast to shed others blood. For, the turning away of the simple shall slay them, and the prosperitie of fooles shall destroy them. But who so hearkeneth unto me shall dwell safely, and shall be quiet from feare of Evil.*

From the Kings Head in the Strand Jan. 1. 1648.

Your affectionate friend and servant, as farre as you appeare to be Gods; your Sovereignes. the Kingdomes, the Parliaments, Religions, theirs who have intrusted you, or your owne true friends.

WILLIAM PRINNE.

Prov. 28. 23.

He that rebuketh a man; afterward, shall finde more favour, then he that flattereth him with his lips.

APOSTSCRIPT.

I Am confident, that if the Members now meeting at *Westminster* will but persuade the *Generall* and his *Protestant Officers* immediately to tender the Oathes of *Supremacy* and *Alegiance*, the *solemn League and Covenants*, and the *New Oath of Allegiance*, for the better discovery and speedier conviction of *Jesuits*, *Papish Priests* and *Papists* consented to by the King in the late Treaty; to all the Officers *Aggravators*, and *Souldiers* in the Army, they will presently discover an whole Conclave of *Jesuits*, *Papists*, *Priests*, and *Jesuited Papists* amongst them, who have instigated them, to *disobey* and *force* both Houses, *imprison* their Members, to *impeach*, *try*, *depose*, *execute* the King, *desolve* the present Parliament, *subvert* the present Government, and *confusion* of Parliament, *betray* Ireland to the *Rebels*, and bring us to present *Confusion*, the *practises*, *designes* and *studies* of none but *Jesuits* and *Papists*, which all true Protestants cannot but abhor.

FINIS.

